

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (previously presented) A system comprising:

a portable information recording unit carried by a first person comprising a thin pressure-based fingerprint sensor configured to sense a pattern of ridges and valleys of a fingerprint of the first person as surface pressure distribution by scanning a plurality of scanning electrode lines arranged in an x-direction and a plurality of scanning electrode lines arranged in a y-direction with an active element connected to said x and y scanning electrode lines at each intersection thereof, a first memory unit configured to store fingerprint data detected by the fingerprint sensor as registered fingerprint data, a second memory unit in which user-specific information is kept, and an exposed terminal;

an information processing unit used by a second person different from the first person and comprising an external terminal configured to interface with said exposed terminal of said portable information recording unit, a fingerprint matching unit configured to compare newly detected fingerprint data, received at said external terminal, with the registered fingerprint data stored in the first memory unit, received at said external terminal, and a display unit configured to display the user-specific information stored in said second memory unit, said information processing unit configured to display the user-specific information stored in said second memory unit, said information processing unit configured to display the user-specific information in the

display unit when there is a match of fingerprints, said information processing unit further comprising a second thin fingerprint sensor configured to sense a fingerprint of the second person and a third memory unit configured to store fingerprint data of the second person detected by said second fingerprint sensor as registered fingerprint data; and

 said portable information recording unit is configured to combine with said information processing unit to enable said system to operate wherein a fingerprint matching operation is started.

7. (previously presented) A system in accordance with claim 6 in which the information processing unit is configured to read out, to write in, and to rewrite information stored in the second memory unit of the information recording unit.

8. (canceled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A ~~machine/system control device~~ system in accordance with Claim 6 in which the stored fingerprint data of the second person is fingerprint data of a person who has authority to inspect or rewrite information in the portable information recording unit.

19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A method for accessing a database of an information recording/processing device with a portable read/write device, said method comprising the steps of:

registering fingerprint data of a first person in a memory of the portable read/write device;

pressing a finger of the first person on a fingerprint sensor module of the portable ~~read/write/device~~ read/write device to offer a fingerprint;

conditioning access to the database on a match of the offered fingerprint to fingerprint data in the memory of the portable read/write device, as determined by a fingerprint matching unit in the portable read/write device;

connecting the information recording/processing device to the portable read/write device ~~read/write/device~~;

reading identification data from a memory of the information recording/processing device carried by a second person using the portable ~~read/write/device~~, read/write device, the data read including fingerprint data;

pressing a finger of the second person on a fingerprint sensor module of the information recording/processing device to obtain a fingerprint; and

comparing, using the portable fingerprint matching unit in the portable read/write device, the obtained fingerprint of the second person to the fingerprint data read from the information recording/processing device.

21. (cancelled)

22. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 20 and further comprising the step of displaying a verification when the obtained fingerprint of the person matches the fingerprint data read from the information recording/processing device.

23. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 22 and further comprising displaying specific information about the person verified.

24. (previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 20 and further comprising the step of updating information stored in the memory of the information recording/processing device.

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

27. (cancelled)

28. (cancelled)

29. (cancelled)

30. (cancelled)